

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 858

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the members of the  
Theta Tau Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia at  
Austin Peay State University on the occasion of  
the chapter's fiftieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to honor and specially commend those distinguished organizations whose stated goals advance the most noble precepts of human endeavors and whose history of service in pursuit of those goals is an outstanding example to the citizens of this great State; and

WHEREAS, fraternities and sororities have played a significant role in American college life since 1776 and have been major contributors to the cultural, social, and civic lives of their communities; and

WHEREAS, an outstanding example of the Greek system at work, the Theta Tau Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia was founded on May 23, 1959; it is the oldest fraternity on the Austin Peay State University Campus and the second-oldest chapter of that august fraternity in the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the chapter was founded by Aaron Schmidt and The Theta Tau chapter Brothers hold true to the object of Sinfonia: development of the best and truest fraternal spirit, the mutual welfare and brotherhood of musical students, the advancement of music in America, and a loyalty to the alma mater; and

WHEREAS, the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia fraternity was founded on October 6, 1898, at the New England Conservatory in Boston, Massachusetts, when a group of thirteen young men under the guidance of Ossian Everett Mills met "to consider the social life of the young men students of that institution" and "to devise ways and means by which it might be improved." Mr.

Mills, Bursar of the Conservatory, sought to create an Order in which men with a shared love of music could develop the virtues of manhood in themselves and in their fellows; and

WHEREAS, Sinfonia became a national fraternity on October 6, 1900, with the admission of a group of men at the Broad Street Conservatory in Philadelphia; since that time, Sinfonia has grown to become the largest music fraternity in the world, with more than 150,000 initiates and chapters on over 200 college and university campuses across the nation; and

WHEREAS, for more than a century, Sinfonians in nearly every field of study and professional endeavor have transformed the face of music in America; today, the Brotherhood represents a diverse group of individuals spanning the nation who continue the proud tradition of advancing the Fraternity's Object; and

WHEREAS, the Brothers of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia participate in a broad range of activities emphasizing service and performance in music; whether singing at hospitals and homes for the elderly; sponsoring concerts of American music, jazz, and choral festivals; participating in all-campus sings and Broadway-style reviews; providing a large variety of performing ensembles, ranging from big bands to barbershop quartets; commissioning new works; bringing prominent performers and clinicians to their campuses; or taking part in a variety of other social and musical activities, Sinfonians' possibilities for participation in musical activities are limited only by the boundaries of imagination, desire, and commitment; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the high ideals and standards set forth by its founders, the Theta Tau Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia at Austin Peay State University has continued to flourish for fifty years, providing many exciting opportunities for the development of social and leadership skills in an atmosphere of brotherhood, music, and mutual support; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should honor these fine gentlemen, who have made countless contributions to the cultural, social, and civic life of their communities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that on the occasion of this estimable fraternity's fiftieth anniversary we hereby honor and commend the members of the Theta Tau Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia at Austin

Peay State University, salute their commitment to excellence in all their endeavors, and wish them continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.